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The Proverbs. With Introduction and Notes. (*Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges.*) By the VEN. T. T. PEROWNE, B.D. Cambridge: The University Press, 1899. Pp. 196. \$0.75.

The book of Proverbs presents many difficulties to the exegete. Its lack of unity, coherency, and continuity are continual menaces to its understanding. Mr. Perowne prepares the way for his exegesis by a clearly written, but all too brief, introduction. "The Wisdom of the Hebrews" is discussed very briefly. The author brings out the characteristics of Hebrew wisdom, and shows that it is not limited by one race, but stretches out and covers the whole range of the human family. This feature of *Proverbs* claims our attention and promises us large returns for our pains. The literary character of *Proverbs* is largely a discussion of the principles of parallelism, and of those most prevalent in this species of Hebrew verse. The authorship is attributed to Solomon, so far as the great bulk of the proverbs is concerned. In fact, he seems to conclude, though he is not positive in his statements, that the last two chapters are the only large portions drawn from foreign sources. "The moral and religious teaching of Proverbs" is in part an argument for the retention of this book among the inspired records of the Old Testament. The didactic character of these writings designates them as truly prophetic, and as properly entitled to a place in the "sacred library." Other features are specified which reveal the author as thoroughly conservative in his opinions. His analysis presents no new items, and differs slightly from those of the leading exegetes of our day.

The commentary proper is embodied in less than 150 small pages, and, while to the point, its value could be very greatly enhanced, and the volume not be too large, if this part were doubled in size. Larger use could thus be made of the latest and best authorities whose extensive treatments have appeared within the last decade.

IRA M. PRICE.

LITERARY NOTE.

MESSRS. CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS publish *The Recollections of a Missionary in the Great West*, by Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady (\$1.25), in which the author has gathered together a number of recollections of a work in the far West as an Episcopalian rector. They are interesting and suggestive as an account of the efforts of an energetic pastor to present the teachings of Christ to "the plain people."